

Via Fax No.: 571-273-8300
Amendment mailed April 3, 2006
Attorney Reference No.: 52604-00072

Application No. 10/808,122
Attorney Docket No.: N1280-00130(TSMC2003-979)

REMARKS

Claims 7, 12, 15-17 and 22 remain in the application, in which claims 12 and 15-17 have been allowed. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13, 14, and 18-21 have been cancelled. Claims 7 and 22 have been amended in compliance with earlier objections under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). Applicants respectfully request for entering the claim amendments and allowing the pending claims 7, 12, 15-17 and 22.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this response, claims 7 and 22 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claims and intervening claims, if any. Thus, the amended claims 7 and 22 are now in condition of allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-6, 8, 10 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,370,071 to Lall et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Lall"). As mentioned above, claims 1-6, 8, 10 and 18-21 have been cancelled. Thus, the rejections are moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lall. As mentioned above, claims 9 and 11 have been cancelled. Thus, the rejections are moot.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this application in an allowable form. In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are drawn to novel subject matters, patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is therefore, respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Should the Examiner deem that any further clarification is desirable, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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